Jesus Feeds 5,000 People

WHAT’S THE POINT?

One of the words many toddlers learn quickly is “mine.” They know what they want and how to hang onto it. They claim their territory by gripping toys, hiding them or even pushing others to get or keep what they determine is “mine”. It’s sad that many people continue with the “mine” mentality into adulthood. It’s my money, my house, my family, my yard, my car and on and on it goes.

The first step in developing a generous heart is to understand that nothing on this earth really belongs to you. Everything you have is a gift from God and is meant to be shared. When you offer back to God what He’s given to you, He can perform miracles. Like the boy who gave his fishes and loaves to Jesus, you may not have much to offer Him. But in God’s economy, your simple sacrifice given from a generous heart can turn into a full blown miracle through the power of God.

Giving generously and sacrificially shows you trust God to provide for your needs according to His riches in glory. A generous heart is a reflection of Christ’s example of generously giving Himself to pay your debt of sin. The more you consider what Jesus gave, living with generosity toward others becomes a natural response.

GET CONNECTED

Building relationships in Surf Teams; introducing today’s lesson

No supplies needed

Use the following conversation prompts to get to know the kids in your Surf Team and to introduce today’s lesson.

- Do you have something at your house that you are unwilling to share with your brother, sister or friend?
- How have you seen people be selfish with the following things: time, money, friendships, or skills?
- Being generous is the opposite of being greedy or selfish, so what is generosity? (an unselfish attitude, willing to share with others)
- Today’s Bible lesson is about a boy who was generous with what he had. Who is someone you know that is generous?

Guide clubbers to locate and mark today’s Bible Connection and Memory Link in their Bibles so they can find the pages quickly as directed in the session.

Worship Tip

Make your worship masculine so the boys in your group will stay engaged. Often boys will disengage if they think worship is too “girly”. Involving the boys in worship will not only point their hearts toward Jesus, but can also help eliminate behavior problems that tend to happen when boys are bored. One way to get boys involved is with competition songs. For example, the boys sing a line then girls sing a line. Also consider songs that are fast paced with challenging motions or body movements. Enlisting male volunteers and older boys as worship leaders also helps create a masculine quality in worship.
MEMORY LINK

Teach a Bible verse to clubbers; help them memorize the verse.

Flashlight

Focus on the Bible

Ask the kids to hold their KBC Study Bibles high in the air. Invite volunteers to tell facts they've learned about the Bible in beach club. After a few kids share, lead all the kids to find the tip-in page “About the Bible” (KBC Study Bible following page 242) and talk about the Bible facts listed on the page. Emphasize that the Bible is a great treasure from God to all people.

Focus on today's Memory Link

Ask kids to find Philippians 4:19 in their KBC Study Bibles (page 1298) and read it aloud together. So does this verse mean that God will give you everything you want? Certainly not! The verse says that God will supply everything you need through Christ. Let’s talk about the difference between needs and wants. Sometimes the things you want are not best for you. Does that make God stingy or mean? Of course not! God is generous. Many times God gives you more than you need just because He loves and cares for you.

You can trust God to provide what you need because of His generosity. The biggest need all people have is forgiveness from sin and a relationship with God. By dying on the cross for your sin, Jesus generously gave himself for you and has made it possible for you to have a personal relationship with God.

Option 1 - NEED OR WANT

Bible, coin

Guide kids to sit in a circle. Give one child a Bible. The kids will pass the Bible around the circle as they recite the memory link together. The last person holding the Bible when the reference is recited will flip a coin. If the coin lands on “heads” they will hand the Bible to the person on their left and ask them to state something that is a need. If the coin lands on “tails” they will hand the Bible to the person on their right and ask them to state something that is a want. The person now holding the Bible will start the next round.

Option 2 - SWAT A VERSE

Fly swatters, note cards

Write each word of the verse on a separate index card. Mix up the cards and place them randomly face-up on the floor. Allow kids to take turns using fly swatters to “swat” each word of the verse in order. Rearrange the words between each turn. Use a timer and see who can complete the activity in the fastest time. For a bigger challenge and if your space permits, spread the word cards far apart so kids have to take a few steps to locate the next word.

Game Option

Sticky hands are readily available at party stores and novelty stores online. They can be used for many fun and creative games or may be given away as prizes in club. Most can be easily rinsed with water and reused over and over. For today’s “Option 2”, sticky hands would be a creative alternative. Kids can use sticky hands to pick up each word card in the correct order.
**BIBLE CONNECTION**

Teaching today’s character word through gospel-centered Bible story

Five slices of bread, can of sardines

**Introduce the Story**

Guide kids to sit with their surf teams and explain the introductory activity. *I will ask you for something and say the word ‘GO.’ You will try to find that item among the people in your surf team and one person from your group will bring it to me. The first group that makes it to me wins that round. Request each of the following items and respond in the following ways.*

- **Money** - Thank the winner for being so generous, give the money back
- **Phone** - Take a selfie with the winner and give the phone back
- **Food** - Ask if the winner will share, give the food back

*Even at school, you keep lots of things with you. Today’s story tells about a large group where only one person had anything with him to eat. It was a young boy whose generosity allowed thousands of people to see Jesus perform a miracle.*

**John 6:1-9**

Ask the kids to open their KBC Study Bibles to John 6:1-14 (page 1156). Ask kids to note the heading at the beginning of the chapter to find a big number (5,000). *That is how many people gathered on a hillside to hear Jesus teach and heal people. When Jesus saw the crowd coming, he asked Philip, “Where will we buy bread to feed all these people?” Philip replied that they didn’t have the money to buy bread for such a large crowd. Andrew pointed out a young boy who had 5 small loaves of bread and two small fish, but knew that could not feed everyone.*

**Talk About It**

Show the kids the 5 slices of bread and can of sardines. Is this enough to feed everyone in this room today? *Maybe if we all take just a small piece. Is this enough to feed everyone at your school? 5 pieces of bread and a few fish are certainly not enough to feed 5,000 people.*

**John 6:10-13**

Jesus organized the crowd to sit into groups, much like you are seated in groups today. *The boy generously shared his lunch. Jesus took what the boy offered and gave thanks to God for it. Then, Jesus started passing out the food to the disciples to pass out to the people group by group. Walk among the groups like you are passing out food as you continue telling the story. And Jesus kept passing out more and more and more. Jesus miraculously multiplied the boy’s lunch until the entire crowd of 5000 people were fed. And Jesus didn’t just give them enough to eat, he generously exceeded what was needed. It was such a feast that the disciples gathered up 12 baskets of leftovers.*

**Talk About It**

*The young boy was generous and shared his lunch. Imagine you were the boy with the lunch. How hard would it have been for you to share? He could have hidden behind a tree and gobbled up his loaves and fish before anyone saw him. Instead he was generous and gave what he had to give.*

Jesus was generous too. *He could have sent the people home to find something to eat. He could have continued teaching and let the people go hungry. But*
Jesus had compassion. He wanted to show them that He was God’s Son. Jesus was generous and provided so much food that there were 12 baskets of leftovers.

**Memory Link Review**
Ask the kids to recite today’s memory link, Philippians 4:19. How did Jesus demonstrate this verse? He met the need for the people to have something to eat. He generously made sure everyone had more than enough to eat. God’s glory is rich. It contains everything you need. You may not have new shoes or live in a mansion or even get presents for your birthday. But with God, you have more than enough because God is enough.

**John 6:14**
Ask a volunteer to read John 6:14. The people who saw Jesus’ miracle knew Jesus was special. They said he was a Prophet, meaning He was special and sent to share God’s message with the people.

**Talk About It**
The people who saw this miracle didn’t know the whole story about Jesus. Today, we know the truth about who Jesus is. He is God’s Son. He is the Savior. He loves people generously and generously offers forgiveness for sin. This miracle was part of God’s plan.

**Gospel Connection**
What idea did Philip have to solve the problem in today’s story? He thought they needed money to buy food for the people. But Jesus knew that His power would solve the problem. That’s how it is with sin. Some people think they can “pay” for a relationship with God by doing good things. But Jesus alone has the power to meet your biggest need and provide forgiveness from sin. Just like Jesus felt compassion toward the hungry people on the hillside, Jesus feels compassion for people who are separated from Him because of sin. On a different hillside, Jesus generously gave His own life to take the punishment for sin you deserve.

Guide kids to find the tip-in page “How to Know God” between pages 626-627 in their KBC Study Bibles. Use these pages to help kids understand God’s plan of salvation.

Invite children wanting to know more about becoming a Christian to move to the designated area to meet with a leader one-on-one.

**Application/Transition**
The disciples shared in Jesus’ generosity by passing out the food to all the people. They helped the people receive the food that Jesus generously provided. You know that Jesus’ generosity goes beyond food to eat. He generously offers love, hope, and forgiveness. Like the disciples shared the food, you can generously share the good news about Jesus with others. Who can you tell? What will you say? Remind kids that their KiDs Beach Club Bibles contain what they need to generously share Jesus with their friends and family.

**Gospel Tip**
When talking with a child, put your body language and facial expressions in neutral. Avoid the affirmative head nod and expressions like “that’s right” or “that’s good.” Children want to please adults, so it’s importance to minimize your non-verbal influence over a child’s personal decision.
SURF TEAM TIME
Connecting with kids in small groups; applying today’s Bible Connection and Character Word

Memory Link Cards, Hang 10 page, Index cards, pens

Gospel Connection
Before you begin, ask if there are any clubbers who would like to talk with the Bible Connection Leader about praying to ask Jesus to become their Forever Friend. If so, let them go to the designated area.

Today’s Lesson
• What questions do you have about today’s story?
• What did today’s story teach you about God?
• If someone asked you, “How has God been generous to you?”, how would you answer that question?
• How would you describe a generous person? How well does the word ‘generous’ describe you?

Pray
Give kids a few minutes to share their prayer requests or write them on index cards. Ask a child to lead the group in prayer. Take the cards home and remember to pray for the kids in your surf team this week.

Use the Bible 📖
Give each child a Memory Link card. Review today’s Memory Link and Character Word. Guide kids to use cards to mark today’s story in their KBC Study Bibles. Lead them to highlight today’s Memory Link.

Hang 10 Pages 📖
Give each child a Hang 10 Page. Challenge kids to hang out with God 10 minutes each day by praying and reading the Bible, using the Hang 10 page as a guide. Encourage kids to bring back their Hang 10 pages next week.

More at Home 📖
Explain that today’s Bible story is recorded in all four gospels. (Matthew 14:13-21, Mark 6:30-44, Luke 9:10-17 and John 6:1-14) Challenge kids to find and read the story from each book at home with their families. Draw kids attention to ‘Bible Treasures’ on page 1156 and encourage them to talk with their families about what they learned in beach club today.

©Copyright 2016 KiDs Beach Club® is a registered trademark. All rights reserved.
MAKE IT STICK - REVIEW GAME

Game to review today’s Bible Connection & Character Word

Option 1 - BALLOON RELAY

Inflated balloons, cones

Tell the clubbers that today’s game is a relay race. Direct each group to form a single file line several feet away from the cones. Explain that players will answer a review question, place an inflated balloon between their knees, and hop to the cone and back. The next player repeats and so on until everyone has a turn. The first team to complete the relay wins.

Option 2 - GIVE IT AWAY

Bandanas, music

Guide kids to sit in a circle. Explain that the object of the game is to give away the bandana. Play the music as the kids pass the bandana around the circle as quickly as possible. When the music stops, the person holding the bandana will answer a review question. They will generously give the bandana to someone else in the circle, who will begin passing when the music starts for the next round of play.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What is today’s character word? (Generosity)
2. What does generosity mean? (An unselfish attitude, willing to share with others)
3. Name someone who showed generosity in today’s story and how? (The boy gave his lunch; Jesus multiplied the food so everyone had plenty to eat.)
4. How much food did the boy have with him? (5 loaves and 2 fish)
5. How many baskets of leftovers did the disciples collect? (12 baskets)
6. The people who saw this miracle said Jesus was a prophet. Who do you know Jesus is? (The Savior; God’s Son)
7. How did Jesus show generosity to all people? (He gave His life to pay for our sin.)
8. Recite today’s memory link. (And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:19)
9. Name one way God has been generous to you.
10. Who can you generously tell the good news about Jesus? (Answers will vary.)

©Copyright 2016 KiDs Beach Club® is a registered trademark. All rights reserved.
“And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.”

Philippians 4:19

KBC Study Bible page 1298